



State of Utah

Department of  
Environmental Quality

Amanda Smith  
*Executive Director*

Brad T Johnson  
*Deputy Director*

GARY R. HERBERT.  
*Governor*

GREG BELL  
*Lieutenant Governor*

## NEWS RELEASE

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**Contact:**

**Bo Call, (801) 536-4215 (o); (801) 580-8761 (c)**  
**Manager Air Monitoring Center**

# Wood-burning Restrictions Go into Effect

Salt Lake City, Utah – Beginning today, the Utah Division of Air Quality (DAQ) will begin enforcing wood-burning restrictions on “Red” air quality days when using wood-burning stoves and fireplaces are prohibited due to poor air quality.

This is the time of year when DAQ’s three-day forecasts track the hard-to-see particles caused primarily by vehicle emissions, wood-burning stoves and fireplaces that can shroud the valley in pollution-trapping inversions.

“When the air quality is unhealthy we need to drive smarter, and limit, or prohibit firing up wood-burning stoves,” said Bo Call, manager of the Air Monitoring Center.

DAQ monitors air pollution hourly and provides a three-day forecast on its Web site: <http://www.airquality.utah.gov/>. Under “green” conditions, wood burning is allowed. When pollution builds, “yellow” signals for voluntary no wood burning and efforts to limit driving. When pollution levels approach unhealthy, a “red” mandatory no burning is used and the elderly, children or anyone with respiratory problems are advised to reduce prolonged or heavy exertion outdoors.

Besides the Web site, people can also call 801-536-0072 or 1-800-228-5434 to find out the current conditions for burning wood.

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